



News Advisory  
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**DWR Director Speaks on Climate Change  
Impacts to California's Water Resources**

San Francisco -- Department of Water Resources Director Lester Snow on January 31 outlined a plan to ensure California's water future in the face of global climate change. Speaking before the "Water Utility Climate Change Summit 2007," Snow detailed Governor Schwarzenegger's proposal to invest \$5.95 billion in additional water storage, improvements to the Delta ecosystem and water conservation.

"Climate-induced change of water supply has been going on for 50 years and we need to manage it now. Propositions 1E and 84 have put a lot of money on the table to start changing the nature of the system," Snow said. "We can't do things the way we've always done them," he added.

Snow's comments were delivered at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts during an event organized by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. The summit featured experts to address the effects that global warming will have on water resources management.

By 2050, scientists project a 25 percent reduction in the state's snowpack. Reductions in snowpack and earlier snowmelt will require more storage space to prevent flooding and ensure reliable water supplies. Warmer water temperatures will also impact the Delta ecosystem, reducing water quality and threatening its wildlife.

In 2006, voters approved bond measures to provide \$4.9 billion for flood management and nearly \$1 billion for groundwater storage, conservation and other water management actions.

Continuing his leadership on a comprehensive water investment strategy, the Governor has proposed an additional \$4.5 billion for surface and groundwater storage, \$1 billion for Delta sustainability, \$250 million for resources stewardship, and \$200 million for water conservation. New construction of surface water storage would most likely occur near the community of Sites on the west side of the Sacramento Valley, and Temperance Flat on the San Joaquin River east of Fresno.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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